

dent: cure was even much more rapid than in Europe.' Naval surgeons who have practiced in various malarial countries make the same statements."

The full, fair and interesting character of the above extract is that of the whole book.

C. B. KEETLEY.

THE BEST SURGICAL DRESSING.—HOW TO PREPARE IT AND HOW TO USE IT; WITH A CONSIDERATION OF BEACH'S PRINCIPLE OF BULLET-WOUND TREATMENT. By OTIS K. NEWELL, M.D., Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy at Harvard Medical School; Surgeon to Out-Patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital, etc.; Boston, Cupples & Hurd, 1888, 12 mo. pp. 179; Price, \$1.00.

The greater portion of this book and practically all of that portion relating to "the best surgical dressing" consists of a translation of Mikulicz's paper on the use of iodoform in surgery in the *Wiener Klinik* of January 1882. The paper is of great interest, and we are glad to have it made accessible to students of surgery who are so unfortunate as to be unable to read it in the original.

The remainder of the book is occupied by a brief consideration of the practice of primary antiseptic healing of bullet wounds without attempting the removal of the missile, the establishment of which he claims for Dr. H. A. Beach, of Boston. In support of this claim he quotes six cases from the records of the Massachusetts General Hospital, all of which were treated according to this principle in 1881 and 1882. He reports two others treated in 1876 and 1879, but as the bullet was left undisturbed in these cases only because it was impracticable to remove it, they can hardly be properly considered in support of his claim for Dr. Beach, while Reyher's work in the same line during the Turko-Russian war was published in 1878. The author can hardly be acknowledged to have indicated the propriety of the expression, "Beach's principle" in regard to this procedure.

The book is beautifully gotten up, and is a very creditable production, although it would perhaps have been less assuming had the author coupled Professor Mikulicz's name with his own upon the title-page.

JAMES E. PILCHER.

ARBEITEN AUS DER CHIRURGISCHEN KLINIK DER K. UNIV. BERLIN.
E. VON BERGMANN. Theil II und III. 1887, New York, G. E. Steohert.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE SURGICAL CLINIC OF THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY.

These contributions, which consist of two goodly sized volumes, present the results of the labors of one of the foremost of our clinicians and his pupils. Some of these have already appeared in review in the pages of the ANNALS OF SURGERY. Part II contains the works of Prof. von Bergmann on "Echinococci of the Long Bones," and also smaller articles by Dr. Bramann on "Chylous Cysts of the Mesentery," "An Inquiry into the Status of Iodoform in Surgery," by De Ruyter, "Arthropathy Tabidorum," by Dr. Josef Rotter, and "The Treatment of Wounds by means of the Iodoform Tamponade," by Dr. Bramann. In the last named article Dr. Bramann gives the details of a mode of treatment for years in vogue in the clinic of his chief. The gauze is first sterilized in the steam sterilizer for a quarter to a half hour, and then impregnated with the iodoform solution. In minor surgical procedures sterilized gauze unimpregnated has alone been used.

In cases in which there is an abundant discharge of secretions, the gauze impregnated with a certain percentage of sublimate is used. The cotton used in this clinic is also sterilized, *but not* impregnated with any agent. The rubber cloths and towels used in the vicinity of the operating field, are treated in a similar manner. The silk used in suture is sterilized in steam (100° C.) and then stored in metal boxes until used. Catgut only is used for ligature; as a suture it is chiefly employed for the continuous suture. The raw catgut is placed for ten to fourteen days in sublimate 4-800 alcohol, 200 aq. dest., which is frequently renewed. It is then put into alcohol, 1:800 with 200 water, and preserved for use in this solution. With this method the catgut retains its original tenacity. During operation the wound is irrigated with sublimate 1:2000. In the abdomen and pleural cavity wounds are simply *sponged* with the solution. The dictum of Prof. v. Bergman that antisepsis demands a most complete arrest of hæmorrhage is strictly adhered to. In those cases, however, where a thorough arrest of hæmorrhage is made impossible by the nature of the wound (operations in the axilla), or where a coagulum would be liable to decompose or cause pressure effects, the following procedure is adopted. The wound is thoroughly cleansed with sublimate 1:2000 and then sponged with ether-iodoform solution and packed with broad iodoform gauze, one, two or more metres long. The extremity of the gauze protrudes from the wound. At present no sutures are employed, and after two or three days the wound is found dry and free from secretion or reaction; it is then sutured with or without a drainage. This method is almost identical with that of Kocher, except that it is not so universally employed. The method has given brilliant re-

sults in wounds of the most varied character—in operations upon the rectum, cranial bones, brain, orbit, and in resections. It has found its widest and most striking applications in tuberculosis of the bones and the operations in this field.

Part III contains articles by Drs. Schlange, Scheuerlein, Fehleisen, DeRuyter, Prof. von Bergmann, and Dr. F. Bramann, upon "The Sterilized Dressing," "The Origin of Suppuration," "The Etiology of Suppuration," "The Iodoform Question," "The Surgical Treatment of Diseases of the Brain," and "Two Cases of Patent Urachus in the Adult," some of which will be noticed in detail in future numbers.

HENRY KOPLIK.

ARBEITEN AUS DER CHIRURGISCHEN UNIVERSITÄTS-POLIKLINIK ZU LEIPZIG. Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. BENNO SCHMIDT. I. Heft. Leipzig, F. C. W. Vogel. 1888. New York, G. E. Stechert.

PAPERS FROM THE SURGICAL DISPENSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEIPSIK.

The public dispensaries connected with the Leipsic University having been provided with a suitably equipped new building, the chief of the surgical department celebrates this event by editing a series of papers founded upon cases observed and treated in this institution. The majority of the papers were written as dissertations for obtaining the degree of M. D. by dispensary students.

The present collection contains almost entirely descriptions of cases.

1. *On congenital luxations of the knee.* By Dr. Carl Muller. A boy three weeks old admitted with the diagnosis "luxatio tibiæ præfemoralis congenita;" cured by replacement and splint in one week.

The author quotes and classifies 17 other similar cases from literature and adds pathological and mechanical remarks. In a postscript the editor adds two further cases of congenital luxation of the knee-joint, with remarks.

2. *A case of localized tuberculosis of the skin due to direct inoculation.* By Dr. Martin Benno Schmidt. A healthy woman was bitten in the lips by her dying and phthisical husband. Subsequently she pricked her finger and probably infected this wound by means of the lip. In both places tuberculous noduli developed, which were excised and microscopically examined. They proved to be tuberculous in character. Eighteen further cases are collected and abstracted.

3. *A case of traumatic displacement of the lower row of carpal bones backwards.* By the editor and Alfred Schmidt. Dislocation by a fall of the ossa capitatum, hamatum and multangulum minus,